Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 20-30 with the following amended paragraph:

Route processor 420 is responsible for running the routing protocols and building routing tables from the network topology. The routing information is then used to build forwarding tables distributed to line cards 430. Route processor 420 determines the network topology, calculates the best path across the network, creates and maintains a routing table, distributes and updates forwarding tables on line cards 430 and maintains copies of the tables of each line card for card initialization. Route processor 420 is responsible for the system control and administrative functions and also handles general maintenance functions such as diagnostics, console support, and line card monitoring. Route processor 420 provides the routing intelligence for router 400. Route processor 420 typically includes Ethernet connections for network management access, one or more processing engines (431 and 432), and memory 433.